

## Message Text

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ACTION OPIC-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 EB-11 COME-00 AID-20 IGA-02 IO-14

INT-08 OMB-01 TRSE-00 CIEP-02 XMB-07 DOTE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04

PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 EUR-25 /186 W

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P 021512Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9967

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 0607

PASS OPIC

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: EIND, EFIN, ZA

SUBJECT: TAW

REF: LUSAKA 582, 567, 568, 569

1. TOM WOOD CALLED AMBASSADOR WITHIN HOUR OF HER RETURN  
TO REQUEST IMMEDIATE APPOINTMENT PRIOR HIS RETURN TO  
US APRIL 2.

2. WOOD CAME TO RESIDENCE IN COMPANY OF FRANK SAVAGE  
AND COMPANY LAWYER ALAN DYNNER. STATED PURPOSE OF CALL  
WAS TO REQUEST EMBASSY "TO PUT ON RECORD" APPROACH OF ONE  
CECIL SITHOLE FOR PRIVATE MEETING BETWEEN TAW OFFICIALS AND  
MINISTER OF FINANCE AND PLANNING CHIKWANDA "TO RENEGOTIATE  
CONTRACT." IMPLICATION STRONG IN MINDS OF WOOD AND SAVAGE  
THAT CHIKWANDA TRYING TO SET UP TAW ON BRIBERY CHARGES. TAW  
REFUSED TO PLAY GAME. SITHOLE DESCRIBED AS POSSIBLY  
RHODESIAN WHO CONNECTED WITH TRANSPORT BUSINESS IN  
ZAMBIA.

3. RE ALLEGATIONS TAW MADE PAY-OFFS TO OBTAIN CONTRACT,  
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WOOD SAID, THAT IS OUR CURRENT PROBLEM, WE ENCOUNTERED

TROUBLE BECAUSE WE DID NOT RPT NOT PAY OFF IN TRADITION OF EUROPEAN SUPPLIERS.

4. TAW HAS SET APRIL 2 AS DEADLINE FOR UNDERTAKING BY GRZ TO RETURN 68 TRUCKS AND 74 TRAILERS TO TAW WHICH ANXIOUS START PROCEEDINGS FOR SETTLEMENT WITH US CREDITORS. COMPANY DOUBTFUL OF PROMPT GRZ RESPONSE BUT WILL REPEAT WRITTEN REQUEST IN SUCCESSIVE DAYS TO STRENGTHEN ITS LEGAL CASE.

5. BOTH WOOD AND SAVAGE CONTINUE TO SEE TAW'S PROBLEM MAINLY IN TERMS OF TEST OF POLITICAL POWER WITHIN GRZ BETWEEN SO-CALLED "EASTERN CAMP" OF OLD GUARD LED BY MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AARON MILNER AND MINISTER TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS AXON SOKO AND NEW "NORTH-SOUTH CAMP" LED BY PRIME MINISTER MAINZA CHONA AND MINISTER CHIKWANDA WITH LATTER AS REAL POWER AND DRIVING FORCE. FOREIGN MINISTER MWAANGA ALSO DESCRIBED AS IN THIS NORTH-SOUTH CAMP WHICH ANXIOUS TO BROADEN AND STRENGTHEN ITS POLITICAL BASE AND USURP DOMINANT ROLE HELD BY EASTERN CAMP IN PREVIOUS GOVERNMENT UNTIL EASED OVER IN LARGE PART TO CENTRAL COMMITTEE FOLLOWING FORMATION OF ONE PARTY STATE DECEMBER 10, 1973.

6. TAW LAWYER DYNNER SAID COMPANY INTENDS TO RECOVER DAMAGES OF 26.5 MILLION DOLLARS BY WHATEVER MEANS POSSIBLE BUT WILL START WITH ARBITRATION PROCEEDINGS THROUGH INTERNATIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN LONDON.

7. COMMENT: RECOMMEND DEPARTMENT SOLICIT VIEWS OF FOREIGN MINISTER MWAANGA ON TAW CASE DURING HIS WASHINGTON VISIT APRIL 12 - 14 (LUSAKA 597). WOOD TOLD US HE HAD WORKED ON MWAANGA BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE AND CONVINCED HIM TAW'S LEGAL CASE STRONG IF NOT INVINCIBLE. WOOD ADMITS MWAANGA EASILY INFLUENCED. WORTH NOTING THAT MWAANGA AND CHIKWANDA ENJOY EXTREMELY CLOSE PERSONAL AND WORKING RELATIONSHIP ALTHOUGH FORMER TENDS TO BE INFLUENCED BY LATTER WHO IS STRONGER, AND MORE INTELLIGENT WITH HIGHER PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS. WILKOWSKI

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## Message Attributes

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